GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:330
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004
MEDICAL FACILTIES TO DIABETIC PATIENTS
Murmu Shri Rupchand;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a constant increase in the number of diabetic patients;

(b) is so, the details of the causes alongwith the number of patients in the country; (

(c) whether the All India Institute of Medical Sciences have conducted any study about diabetes with the assistance of Indian Council of Medical Research;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide sufficient medical facilities to diabetic patients?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 330 FOR 18TH AUGUST, 2004

As per information available, the prevalence of diabetes has been increasing over the last two decades. Studies performed in early 1980`s suggested an urban prevalence of 3-4%. According to the revised estimates of the World Health Organization (WHO), there are 32 million diabetics in the country. WHO has projected 80 million diabetics in India by 2030.

The epidemiological evidence showing increase in prevalence of diabetes particularly in the urban areas of the country is probably because of ageing, unhealthy diet, obesity, sedentary life style and better detection facilities.

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has conducted several studies over the last 35 years with the assistance of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and other Governmental funding agencies regarding diabetes. The initial study was the pioneering multi-centre study in the early 1970`s, which looked at diabetes prevalence in 6 different parts of the country. Since then, other studies have evaluated the prevalence of diabetes in the country. The AIIMS has also conducted several studies looking at various complications of diabetes including those affecting the eyes, kidneys, nerves and heart. Also, work has been done to look at potential causative factors in disease evolution. These efforts have led to better understanding of the disease burden, the profile of the disease in our country as distinct from other parts of the World and also help plan appropriate treatment strategies.

Diabetes treatment is done at all levels in the rural health care delivery system and urban health care institutions. Since diabetes is a life style related disease, it is very important to adopt preventive life style intervention for control of diabetes among children and adults in the country. These interventions are emphasized through information, education & communication activities of the Government including through Central Health Education Bureau.